Amendment to the Specification

Please replace paragraph 1 on p. 1 with the following paragraph:

This application claims priority to, and the benefit of PCT/US99/28592, filed on December 1, 1999, which claims priority to, and the benefit of USSN 60/110,616, filed on December 2, 1998, the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference herein. Related applications include: USSN 09/872,868 ~~(Attorney Docket No. CEL-002)~~, filed June 1, 2001; and USSN 09/872,339 ~~(Attorney Docket No. CEL-003)~~, filed June 1, 2001, the disclosures of which are incorporated by reference herein.

Please replace the fourth full paragraph on p. 40, under the heading "Example 5: Design and Construction of Plasmids Carrying a Two-State Oscillator", with the following paragraph:

Methods used to construct and test two-state oscillators are similar to those outlined for a bistable toggle switch construct described in USSN 09/872,868 ~~[Attorney Docket No. CEL-002]~~. The design of a two-state oscillator is an extension of the adjustable-threshold switch as discussed above. The output of the adjustable-threshold switch (i.e., the expression of one of the two genes) is fed back into the input of the switch (e.g., via an activator protein concentration), preferably with a time delay. There are two general methods to achieve this feedback.